

NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION

**Public Meeting  
Invitation**

November 15, 1999  
7:00 P.M.

Oneida City Hall  
Council Chambers  
109 North Main St., Oneida

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation will discuss the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) for the Niagara Mohawk Oneida former MGP site. At the meeting representatives from NYSDEC will:

- describe results of detailed site investigations;
- explain the Proposed Remedial Action Plan and other alternatives considered;
- answer your questions about the PRAP;
- receive your verbal or written comments about the proposal.

**Public Comment  
Period**

**From:** November 15, 1999  
**To:** December 17, 1999

# FACT SHEET

Niagara Mohawk's Former  
Oneida MGP Site  
Niagara Mohawk Service Center  
Sconondoa Street, Oneida, NY

## Remedial Action Proposed For The Niagara Mohawk Oneida Former MGP Site

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), working cooperatively with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), has proposed action to address hazardous substance contamination at the Niagara Mohawk Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site in Oneida, New York.

**The Proposed Action:** Highlights include excavation and off-site treatment or disposal at a permitted facility of contaminated soil, including Tailrace Creek dredge spoils and sediment. The proposal is described in the site's Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP). The PRAP was developed following detailed investigation of hazardous substance contamination at the site. The PRAP examines different ways to clean-up the site, and presents the alternative preferred by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

**Your Opportunities to Comment on the Proposed Remedy:** Release of the PRAP begins a process to finalize selection of the remedy for Niagara Mohawk Former Oneida Manufactured Gas Plant Site. *Your comments and input about the proposed remedy are important and encouraged.*

Your oral and written comments about the PRAP are welcome at the public meeting and during a public comment period which runs through December 17, 1999. Written comments also may be sent until the end of the comment period by addressing them to:

Mr. John Spellman  
NYSDEC Division of Environmental Remediation  
50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12233-7010

**What Happens Next:** All comments received during the public comment period will be considered as the remedy for the Niagara Mohawk Oneida Former MGP Site is finalized. Public input will be factored into a Record of Decision (ROD) which will describe the remedy selected and why it was chosen. A responsiveness summary will be prepared which will respond to the comments received. Work will then continue to design the selected remedy.



**Document Repositories:** (To access the complete PRAP and other site information)

Oneida Public Library  
220 Broad Street  
Oneida, New York 13427

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 7  
615 Erie Boulevard  
Syracuse, New York 13204-2400  
(315) 426-7400  
Contact: Charles Branagh, Regional Haz. Waste Remediation Engineer

**For More Information:** Call or write the following staff for more information.

**Meeting/Comment Period/PRAP:**

Mr. John Spellman  
NYSDEC, Div. Environmental Remediation  
50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12233-7010  
(518) 457-9285

**Health-Related Concerns:**

Mr. John Sheehan  
NYSDOH, BEEI  
Flanigan Square  
547 River Street, Room 300  
Troy, New York 12180-2216  
1 (800) 458-1158 Ext. 27890

**Summary of Proposed Remedial Action:**

The Proposed Remedial Action Plan describes the method preferred by NYSDEC and NYSDOH to remediate hazardous substance contamination at the Niagara Mohawk Oneida Former MGP Site. The proposed method was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and study of alternatives for remediating the contamination.

Elements of the proposed action include:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 7,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil on and adjacent to the Niagara Mohawk property. Also, approximately 3,000 cubic yards of contaminated dredged spoils, and 2,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment in and adjacent to the Tailrace Creek will be excavated for off-site disposal.
- Backfilling excavated areas with clean fill that will be compacted, graded and covered with vegetation. The Niagara Mohawk property will be paved.
- Using a network of new and existing monitoring wells, the groundwater will be monitored annually. The site will be evaluated after five years to determine the effectiveness of the remedy.

**Costs and Funding for the Proposed Remedy**

The construction cost for the proposed remedy is estimated at \$2.4 million. Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation will fund the project.

**Site History**

The Oneida Gas Light Company, a predecessor to Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, manufactured gas from coal from approximately 1899 to 1930. Manufactured gas produced coal tar as a waste or byproduct; coal tar contains hazardous substances. Manufactured gas became obsolete in the 1950's with the availability of natural gas. In December 1992, Niagara Mohawk consented to a NYSDEC administrative order requiring an environmental preliminary site assessment of 21 former MGP sites. Upon Niagara Mohawk's completion of the environmental assessment, the Department of Environmental Conservation determined that contamination at the site presented a significant threat to the environment and required that Niagara Mohawk take measures to eliminate the threat.